

## **Comments Regarding NPRM to Modernize the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries:**

As Technology Integrationist for Troup ISD, I am acutely aware of the important need and growth necessary for high speed internet bandwidth. Our district promotes and supports digital learning by providing our students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed academically and in the workforce. In addition, we provide students with laptops through our 1:1 program. Every hour of every day our students go online to access educational content and to communicate and collaborate with their peers, teachers and parents. E-Rate funding has helped us to connect our students, teachers and parents--without it, we would need to cut back on our 1-to-1 program as we would have to reduce the amount of bandwidth we would be able to purchase.

I urge the Federal Communications Commission to make certain that E-Rate continues to support high speed internet access and sufficient bandwidth to meet the growing needs of our school district. Please continue to support critical services such as telecommunications, Internet access, and other related resources. I also request that you strongly consider funding the filtering tools that monitor and make our districts sites safe for our students and compliant with federal law. In fact, I ask that you support raising the program's annual funding level to meet the demand for additional bandwidth and to extend cellular/wireless coverage to include areas beyond our school property, to students with no internet access of their own.